

SENATE No. 1479

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia Stone Creem

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the production of wind energy in Boston harbor.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Cynthia Stone Creem

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Middlesex and Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S01926 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PRODUCTION OF WIND ENERGY IN BOSTON HARBOR.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. It is hereby found and declared that Boston Harbor is consistently an area
2 that generates higher than average wind speeds, classified as level 4 for wind strength.

3 It is further found that wind energy is considered a clean and renewable energy
4 resource.

5 It is further found that the Boston region is beset by high energy costs from fossil fuels
6 that burden local businesses and residents, necessitating a need to consider alternative sources of
7 power generation;

8 Therefore, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Executive Office of
9 Environmental Affairs, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of
10 Telecommunications and Energy, working in conjunction with other relevant federal, state and
11 local agencies and government departments and private and non-profit energy providers and
12 advocacy organizations, is hereby required to conduct a study into the feasibility of wind energy

13 generation in the area of Boston Harbor. Said study must include an analysis of possible
14 locations for the creation of a “wind energy farm” on a land site in Boston Harbor; the costs of
15 creating such an operation; the environmental impacts of wind-energy; and the potential for a
16 public-private partnership to generate wind energy in the Boston region. The Executive Office
17 of Environmental Affairs, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of
18 Telecommunications and Energy must consider examples of successful wind energy production
19 in other areas of the United States and in other nations, most notably in Western Europe and
20 Asia, during said study. Said study must be submitted to the General Court’s joint committee on
21 energy no later than January 1, 2010.